



Beutnagel 4-1-13-3

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IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

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| Inventor(s) | Mark Beutnagel Ariel Fischer Joern Ostermann Yao Wang | Case Name | Beutnagel 4-1-13-3 |
| Filing Date | 12/31/1998 | Serial No. | 09/224,583 |
| Examiner | Michael Opsasnick | Group Art Unit | 2654 |
| Title | Integration of Talking Heads and Text-to-Speech Synthesizers for Visual TTS | | |

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
SIR:

AMENDMENT

In response to a non-final Office action dated July 15, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the claims:

Please add the following claims: --

43. Apparatus comprising
- A decoder/synthesize module that is responsive to an input that includes a text specification and explicit FAP information, outputting a synthesized voice at a first output, and phonemes as well as said FAP information at a second output;
 - a converter responsive to said second output for generating a sequence of facial animation parameters;
 - face rendering module responsive to said converter; and
 - a compositor, responsive to said synthesizer and to said face rendering module.
44. The apparatus of claim 43, further adapted to accept said input from a remote location that is communicated to said apparatus via a communication network.

10/18/2002 YPOLITE1 00000114 09224583
01 FC:1201 168.00 OP
02 FC:1202 504.00 OP